

The Sharon High Times

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GREENER GRASS?



(Or...Is The Grass Greener At Other High Schools?)

SHARON HIGH SCHOOL

Enrollment: 950
Grades 9 - 12

MAKING THE GRADE

	RATE
SCHOOL SPIRIT Sharon is very enthusiastic about their basketball team. Spirit Days are held, and Spirit Caps were sold.	(7)
GUIDANCE The ratio is about 250:1 and career guidance courses are given.	(9)
COURSE SELECTION Vocational arts are poor, but academic courses are great--many advanced courses (3 sciences and computers)	(7)
COURSE SIZE AND QUALITY There is a 25 student limit and most teachers are adequate or better.	(8)
GYM Classes are enormous, and instruction and skills are down played. Not co-ed.	(2)
LUNCH Lunches aren't bad. There are 3 choices, including a popular salad bar.	(7)
ACTIVITIES There is an enormous selection, and most are very active.	(8)
SCHOOL NEWSPAPER The newspaper's content is good and the paper is widely read.	(8)
SPORTS The school lacks hockey and swimming but has all other regular sports on varied levels.	(8)
RULES Rules are excessively harsh. There are police and monitors, no last-period study dismissal, and an 85% attendance rule.	(2)

Canton. Franklin. Mansfield. Newton North. North Attleboro. Norton. Norwood. Stoughton. Eight area high schools are the subject of one of the Sharon High Times' most challenging and exciting features ever. Almost twenty staff members of the newspaper altruistically sacrificed a day at Sharon High School to report what "a day in the life of another high school" is like. Following are the results of day-long visits to these neighboring secondary institutions.

It should be noted that each item on each school's report card is graded on a scale of 1 (worst) - 10 (best). For the subject of "rules" it was decided that a "10" would be "most liberal" (like open campus, smoking area, no 85% rule, etc.) and a "1" would be "most strict" (i.e. no last-period study dismissal, no leisure area outside, etc.). The grading in all the other categories is based on what the obvious "best" state would be; inevitably, the grades are strongly influenced by the writers' opinions and impressions, and are in no way meant to represent a definitive assessment of that particular school.

Here, then, are the ratings of Sharon High School's peers--as well as an objective(?) report card for Sharon High School itself!

--Gerald Gamm

NEWTON NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

Enrollment: 2900
Grades 10-12

	RATE
SCHOOL SPIRIT "Transition" is the school store where coats, scarves, hats and T-shirts--in school colors--are sold. Spirit is high. (7)	
GUIDANCE Students find guidance department very helpful. (6)	
COURSE SELECTION Spanish, French, Latin, Russian are among the large selection of courses offered. (10)	
COURSE SIZE AND QUALITY Classes average 26 students or less. Courses are varied and excellent and taught by high-quality instructors. (8)	
GYM Swimming, dancing, physical games and all regular sports are offered. (10)	
LUNCH Salad bar, ice cream, fruit are sold in addition to regular lunches. Large cafeteria. Eating outside permitted (9)	
ACTIVITIES Foreign language and student clubs for math, debating, speech; films shown weekly; one musical a year; about four plays a year. (9)	
SCHOOL NEWSPAPER Articles in foreign language, sports, theatre, special interests. (9)	
SPORTS Too varied to list. (10)	
RULES Detention if caught smoking, but usually overlooked. Suspension for fights. No monitors. Open campus. Student government has a voice. Rules are fairly loose. Students smoke pot and cigarettes in lavs. (9)	

Interview by Barbara Waldman

NORTH ATTLEBORO HIGH SCHOOL

Enrollment: 1200
Grades 9-12

	RATE
SCHOOL SPIRIT Overall school spirit was extremely high. There seemed to be something for everyone to enjoy. Very unified. (8)	
GUIDANCE Ratio is 1 counselor to 300 students. Special room for guidance materials. (Career center). (7)	
COURSE SELECTION Something for everyone, especially electives: woodshop, pottery, graphic arts, photography, auto shop, etc. Good academic selection also. (8)	
COURSE SIZE AND QUALITY 25 student class limit; good quality. (7)	
GYM Classes are based on one activity--leaning proper technique--participation excellent. (9)	
LUNCH Cafeteria is spacious and comfortable. Food is average, selection is good, and desserts such as icecream bars and sandwiches are available. (7)	
ACTIVITIES Again a great many to choose from. (8)	
SCHOOL NEWSPAPER No real newspaper, just a bulletin. (3)	
SPORTS Sports are same as Sharon, with a lot of team spirit, especially in football and track. (9)	
RULES seem very fair. Very different from Sharon--more liberal, yet more effective. Passes are needed, smoking area available, dismissal from last study and late arrival permissible in senior year. Open studies except for freshmen. (9)	

Interviews by James Messina, Paul Durkee

CANTON HIGH SCHOOL

Enrollment: 1350
Grades 9-12

	RATE
SCHOOL SPIRIT Students are especially proud of the football and the math team. Most could only name a few schools they thought better than their own. (8)	
GUIDANCE There is 1 counselor for every 270 students. (7)	
COURSE SELECTION Most students feel there is a very wide selection, such as German and Oceanography. (9)	
COURSE SIZE AND QUALITY There seems to be a good rapport between students and teachers. Class size varies between 7 to 25 pupils, depending on course. (9)	
GYM Most students like gym but wish it were more co-ed in practice instead of in theory. (6)	
LUNCH Very few students like the lunch overall, but many are enthusiastic about the newly installed salad bar. (6)	
ACTIVITIES There is a varied selection--a club activity for everyone. (7)	
SCHOOL NEWSPAPER Canton has a very professional looking paper that deals with more than school news, but not many students are aware of it. (8)	
SPORTS All the students are very enthusiastic about their football, hockey and soccer teams, but disappointed in their basketball team. (9)	
RULES With the exception of a new rule limiting absences per term in addition to the 85% rule, and the no-hats rule, the students thought the rules were very fair. (9)	

Interview by Müge Erkan and Wendi Diamond

FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

Enrollment: 1550
Grades 9-12

	RATE
SCHOOL SPIRIT The overall atmosphere for learning seems good; most kids seem to enjoy school. (7)	
GUIDANCE There is a large resource as well as computer tie-ins for career planning. (9)	
COURSE SELECTION They have a wide variety of courses, especially in Practical Arts. There are AP courses in all major fields. (10)	
*COURSE SIZE AND QUALITY The course size 25-30 seems slightly big for individual help. (8)	
GYM The importance of sports is stressed. There is a wide variety. (9)	
LUNCH It was not bad, but could not compare to Mom's. The presence of a salad bar and a snack bar add to it. (7)	
ACTIVITIES They have almost every imaginable activity. (8)	
SCHOOL NEWSPAPER Its irregular publication is a major drawback. (4)	
SPORTS They include football, cross-country (B & G) field hockey, soccer (B&G), basketball, wrestling, skiing, track, hockey, baseball, softball, golf, tennis, track. (9)	
RULES They are strictly enforced. No one is allowed in hall without a pass. In-house suspension students stay in room whole day (lunch brought to them). (3)	

Interview done by Larry Rubin, Ori Cohen, Mike Goodblatt, Billy Cohen.

NORWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Enrollment: 1394
Grades 10-12

RATE

- SCHOOL SPIRIT Because of the somewhat lenient rules and the first-place marching band and football team, Norwood High has a lot of spirit. (9)
- GUIDANCE There is a ratio of 260 students to 1 counselor, but part of the guidance program includes a Mass. Occupation Information System computer to help the students create a self-profile. (8)
- COURSE SELECTION Norwood has more extensive art programs and AP course selections and has a vocational school, The Peabody, as an alternative to regular high school. (9)
- COURSE SIZE AND QUALITY The students feel the classes are adequate, but the average class size is about 25 students. (6)
- GYM The boys and girls have separate gyms. Dress codes and attendance do not seem to be too well enforced. (6)
- LUNCH Norwood offers one lunch, a salad bar, and an ice cream bar. Their candy store is open during first four periods and breakfast is available for the seniors in the open caf study during that time. Lunch is one period of the 8 period day. (7)
- ACTIVITIES Norwood offers a wider range of activities which are incorporated into the school day once a month. (9)
- SCHOOL NEWSPAPER The Newspaper Club lacks continuous student involvement; they hope to print their first paper for the year in February. (2)
- SPORTS Norwood has an extensive sports program and are proud of their top-ranked teams. (10)
- RULES Tardiness to class is not strongly dissuaded. Students have the use of a smoking area during lunch and between classes. (8)

Interview by Monica Weinstein and Lisa Sinman

STOUGHTON HIGH SCHOOL

Enrollment: 1440
Grades 9-12

RATE

- SCHOOL SPIRIT There is not much school spirit. Nobody, including teachers, really cares. (4)
- GUIDANCE Students find guidance department very helpful. (9)
- COURSE SELECTION There are many different courses offered and there are four ability levels available--basic, standard, college, honors. (8)
- COURSE SIZE AND QUALITY Class sizes are reasonable. (7)
- GYM Many choices are available each term. (8)
- LUNCH There are three different menus offered. (8)
- ACTIVITIES Activities are available but only a few participate. (4)
- SCHOOL NEWSPAPER Quality varies. (5)
- SPORTS More people are involved in sports than in the past, but most have no interest. (4)
- RULES The rules are not extremely strict with the exception of dismissals. (6)

Interview by Jen Loiselle, Nancy Newman, and Terry Ayotte

MANSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

Enrollment: 1000+
Grades 9 - 12

RATE

- SCHOOL SPIRIT Too many students, as well as teachers, have a poor attitude towards learning. Spirit toward sports is good. Respect for administration is very good. (6)
- GUIDANCE There are only three guidance counselors with ratios 400:1, 400:1, 200:1. (6)
- COURSE SELECTION There is a good selection of vocational courses. An effort is being made to improve the academic courses. Last year three advanced placement courses were added although there are only a few students in each. (8)
- COURSE SIZE AND QUALITY There are minimal "great" teachers. Mansfield High is strong, however, in physics and advanced math departments. (7)
- GYM There are structured classes with good facilities. (8)
- LUNCH Two choices and a snack bar are offered. (7)
- ACTIVITIES There are quite a few clubs including a National Honor Society. (7)
- SCHOOL NEWSPAPER It comes out periodically. (6)
- SPORTS There are no soccer, hockey or gymnastic teams. Football gets the most attention. (6)
- RULES Seniors and students in the High Honor Society are allowed to leave during last period studies. There are no monitors. The rules are enforced by the principal and vice-principal who constantly cruise the halls. (9)

The opportunity to learn is available at Mansfield High; however, the students' attitude seems to get in the way.

Interview done by Russ Basch and David Palan

NORTON HIGH SCHOOL

Enrollment: 700
Grades -- 9 - 12

RATE

- SCHOOL SPIRIT is middle of the road. (5)
- GUIDANCE has three counselors per 700. (9)
- COURSE SELECTION is very good. Class size averages 20 students. (10)
- COURSE SIZE AND QUALITY are good. The quality is evident if the kids want it. (9)
- GYM is not so good according to many. A lot of favoritism is shown to jocks. (5)
- LUNCH is rated as poor. Everyone I talked to said it wasn't worth eating. (3)
- ACTIVITIES are very diversified. (8)
- SCHOOL NEWSPAPER Nobody even knew about it, but it does exist. (2)
- SPORTS are very good in this school. They have a wide choice. They are champs in baseball. (9)
- RULES are very fair with few exceptions. One exception is the 10/20 rule dealing with attendance. (9)

Interview by Larry Ross and Peter Rinnig

By Nadine Dolby
Canton High School

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of CHS Mercury

Are all public schools the same? Is the school your friend goes to in Sharon the same as Canton High School except that we have a better football team?

There are many similarities between Sharon High and CHS. Both are public high schools with middle-class students, both offer standard courses: general, business, and college-prep curriculum.

But, the students at CHS have more freedom and more privileges than students at SHS. At Sharon High, there are monitors in the halls during and between classes to check students for passes, and check kids smoking in the bathrooms; there are policemen patrolling the campus grounds morning and afternoon and in-house suspension if you're caught smoking. If you have in-house suspension, you must stay in one room, sit there, and do your class assignments for the whole school day....

One program that Sharon High has that Canton doesn't is the Metco program. This program busses inner-city students into Sharon High for the day. There are 32 Metco students in Sharon High now; they have been attending Sharon Public School since fifth grade. These students said that they have no problems at Sharon High because they are black; they said that all the racial problems between themselves and the white students were worked out when they were younger. Now, they are an accepted, vital part of the Sharon High community....

Seniors do have a right to feel that they have no freedom because they've seen the school go from an open, liberal place to a strict school with tough rules.

Many SHS students have a negative attitude toward their school because of this reason. One student said that going to school at SHS was like being "Being behind bars" all day.

Other students like SHS, and feel that if you live within the limits of the rules, and don't start

any trouble, you can have a meaningful, productive four years at Sharon High.....

Though Sharon High does have strict rules in comparison to CHS, it is apparent that if you live within the rules of the school, you can receive a good, strong education at Sharon High School.

9 KEY ISSUES

The student body of Sharon High School has long viewed many of the rules imposed upon it as harsh. Now we have a chance to compare specific rules, as well as institutions, in relation to the following schools: Canton, Franklin, Mansfield, Newton North, North Attleboro, Norton, Norwood, and Stoughton.

Monitors - 2 schools (Sharon, Stoughton) each have two paid monitors. 7 schools have no official monitors, most of them having teachers acting in that role instead.

Early Dismissal For Seniors - All 9 schools have dismissal for seniors in mid-May

* Metco Program - 1 school (Sharon) has it
7 schools do not

* Crime in School - 3 schools (Sharon, Stoughton, Norwood) cited theft from lockers to the burning of posters. 5 schools reported a minimal amount of crime.

* "85% Attendance" - 2 schools (Canton, Norton) limit to 10 absences/semester - "90%". 3 schools (Sharon, Franklin, Stoughton) have varieties of "85% rule". 1 school (Norwood) gives a warning at 90% and limits to 80%. 2 schools (Mansfield, North Attleboro) have no minimum attendance.

* Dress Code - 5 schools have some form of dress code, most advising "discretion", but some prohibit hats, halters, shorts, and T-Shirts. 3 schools (Franklin, North Attleboro, Mansfield) have no written dress code.

Smoking Area - 5 schools allow smoking in designated areas. 4 schools (Mansfield, Sharon, Canton, Norton) have no official smoking areas.

Last-Period Study - 1 school (Newton North) has an open campus. 2 schools (Norwood, North Attleboro) allow students to leave if they have last period studies. 3 schools (Stoughton, Franklin, Mansfield) had open studies for seniors and depending on the school-juniors and members of the National Honor Society. 3 schools (Sharon, Norton, Canton) do not have open studies.

**In-House Suspension - 5 schools have in-house suspension. 1 school (Norwood) gives parents the option of in-house or not. 1 school (Canton) has no in house suspension.

* Information not available from Newton North High School.
** Information not available from Newton North High and Mansfield High Schools

-- Compiled by Gerald Gamm with information from the students who visited the schools

THANK YOU

The staff of the Sharon High Times would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to the administrations of Sharon High School and of all the schools visited. Their cooperation on this project was invaluable.



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THE INSIDE STORY

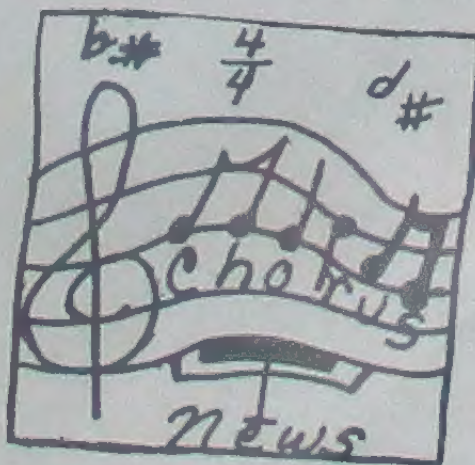
..THE SHARON HIGH TIMES SCHOOL NEWS SECTION..



INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE CLUB

The Student Exchange Club would like to welcome Darrel Rowe to Sharon High School. Darrel is an exchange student from Australia, who will be here for one year. We hope he enjoys his stay. The Exchange Club is busy making plans for a ski weekend and an exchange weekend with other towns. A possible location has been chosen for the ski weekend, and definite plans will be made in the upcoming weeks. During the rotary weekend, several exchange students from all over Massachusetts will stay with host families here in Sharon. Several activities will be planned for that weekend, so it will be a lot of fun. A few weeks ago, several members of the club battled a snowstorm to go roller skating at Riverdale Rollerworld in West Bridgewater. Our group was small, but we had a great time. Plans are being made to go there again in the near future. The Exchange Club welcomes new members, and anyone who would like to join may come to one of our meetings; we meet every Thursday in Room 208. If that is not possible, contact one of our officers: Julie Godfredson, President; Monica Weinstein, Vice-President; Lisa Sinman, Secretary; Sabine Ter-Riet, Treasurer.

By Diane Hall



THE CHORUS COLUMN

On January 17th, along with the band, the Chorus performed at the Pops Concert at Temple Israel. They did many songs including "Even Now", "One Voice", "The Muppet Movie Medley", "Bim Bom", and "They're Playing Our Song Medley".

About twenty chorus members went to the SEMSBA Singing Auditions held in Abington, MA on January 24. They had been rehearsing the try-out piece, "Skipping Thru the Forest", for many weeks. The results of who got accepted will be known in two weeks.

The Chorus began the new term working on many new pieces to be performed at the April Pops Concert and the May Spring Concert. Some of these new songs are "The Rose", "Fame", "Happy Together", and "Can you Read My Mind" from the movie Superman. The Chorus is working very hard on these songs and no doubt the upcoming concerts will be fantastic!

--Melanie Sandberg

BAND NOTES

The Sharon High Concert Band, Stage Band, and Jazz Ensemble along with the Chorus performed in the Second Annual Pop's Night at Temple Israel on the night of January 17.

After the chorus did their songs, the Band program started out with the Stage Band's version of "Eleanor Rigby", with solos from Ori Cohen, Mike Goodblatt, Eric Schwartz, Rob Skelton, and Brian Laurie. The Stage Band played four more songs and was well received by the audience.

The Jazz Ensemble was next and three competition charts were played, including "I Remember Clifford", featuring Lesley Wilkins and Sarah Danca on flutes.

After a brief intermission, the Concert Band played the "Looney Tune Overture" along with four other songs, including "Lara's Theme" and "Send in the Clowns". All in all it was a successful evening which was enjoyed by all.

The Jazz Ensemble is starting to compete in local competitions and the Concert Band is planning on a local trip to the Junior High.

Mr. Fleishman, the musical director at SHS, should be commended for his continuous work with all the bands.

--ROB



KENNEDY ESCAPES 2.5

Sharon High School is sorry to say goodbye to one of its best and most loved teachers, Mr. Kennedy.

At the end of the second quarter, Mr. Kennedy left Sharon for Providence to take the position as Executive Officer at the Army General Hospital.

Mr. Kennedy had been in the R.O.T.C. while at Middlebury and in the Active Reserves ever since college and had been in the active reserves while teaching, Executive Officer of the Reserve Unit of Hanscom Field in Waltham, MA.

Mr. Kennedy had taught various English courses in Sharon High including Freshman Advanced English (so famous for soap, stationery, Kleenex, Comb and toothpaste), Creative Writing, Masterpieces of World Literature and would have attempted teaching Concepts of Evil if he had finished out the year, which would have been his 12th at Sharon High.

Mr. Kennedy has taken a three year leave of absence and Sharon High will be very lucky if he returns to resume teaching here.

by Monica Weinstein

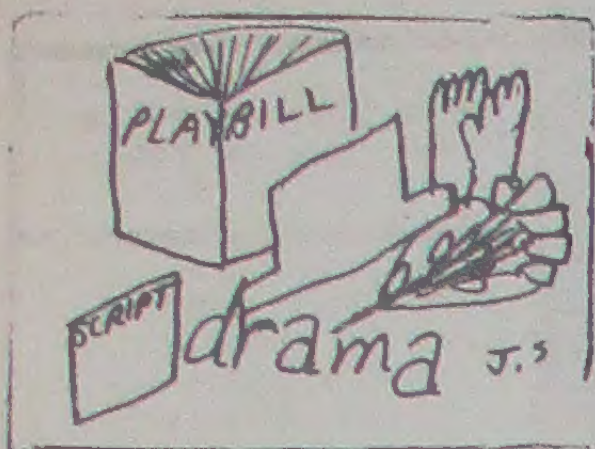
MRS. MANZO

Mrs. Noreen Manzo has joined the English department at Sharon High to replace Mr. Richard Kennedy. Mrs. Manzo, who has taken over Mr. Kennedy's classes, brings more than 10 years of teaching experience to Sharon. Having served as a department head at a private school in Waterbury, Conn.

English department head Ernest Blake said that he had many applicants to choose from, and was pleased to get someone of Mrs. Manzo's quality, although he admits that it will be hard to replace someone of Mr. Kennedy's calibre.

-- Eugene





WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE JUNIORS

The Junior Class is busy once again, but this time we are working with the hearts. The assembly line is in full swing. People are working hard, and whether class members cut out the hearts, write out the messages, or put on the ribbons, the class is working as a unified team.

The closing date for heart selling is February 7th. They will be given out on February 13th, the day before Valentines Day and vacation (thank god)!

The Juniors are also planning their Junior Prom which is scheduled for sometime in early April. Come and help us Juniors--it's never too late.

--Jen Kaplar

THE MOUSETRAP

The director, cast, and crew of "The Mousetrap" are busily rehearsing during these last two weeks before the production on February 6.

The Agatha Christie mystery, a whodunit, proves to be very suspenseful and an exiting play. Who did it? Was it Melaine Sandberg? Erick Goldberg? Or maybe it was Marcia Delman, Janya Indeck or Andy Sucoff! What about Mitchell Hunt? But it could possibly be Jon King or Jeff Nanis!

Well, you'll find out on February 6th! Get your tickets today! You'll have a deathly good time!

--Melanie Sandberg

SENIOR CLASS NEWS

SENIORITIS has struck! With only one semester left, many Seniors are beginning to count the days until May 20th, our last day of school. (about 60 days) Plans are already being made for Our Senior Prom and Class Night. Our prom, on May 21, will take place at the Sidney Hill Country Club in Newton. The class has hired the band "Reflections" to perform at this year's prom. Such details as ticket prices, pictures, and meals are being discussed at this time. Another big event will be class night. May 18 is the tentative date for this fun event. It will take place at the King Phillip Ball Room in Wrentham. The reading of the class will and class history will take place during that evening. During this year, several pictures will be taken of the Senior Class. During class night, these pictures will be set to music and shown to everyone. All throughout the evening, a D.J. will provide entertainment by playing all the popular songs.

Plans are being finalized for the ordering of T-shirts for the Senior Class. These T-shirts will have each name in the Class of '81 printed on the front. These will be something to look forward to. One final note--It is important to pay all class dues as soon as possible. Please see your homeroom representative.

By Diane Hall

FRESHMAN CLASS NEWS

This new year is shining a new light on the freshman class. First, the officers have decided to raffle off a pair of box seat Red Sox tickets. The raffle tickets will be sold for 50¢ each, and three for \$1.00.

There is also the distinct possibility of a bakesale at the Walpole Mall sometime before April. But in order to have a successful bakesale, the help of all the freshman class will be needed.

The officers are now investigating the possibility of having a teacher come in to school to teach sign language to interested students. The course would be held during 8th period.

Finally, in April, the freshman class will be selling chocolate eggs for 50¢ each. And don't forget, suggestions are always welcome.

--Diana Peltz



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COMPLIMENTS OF THE
SHARON POLICE ASSOCIATION



ATTENTION!

Do you enjoy writing short stories, poems or essays? Or have you written something for an English assignment which you feel is especially good and deserves more credit than it has received? If so, you may submit some of your work to Euphony Magazine, the school's literary magazine. You don't have to be an expert writer to have something of yours published in this magazine, so why not try? It should also be noted that this publication serves a different purpose than the high school newspaper, which does not publish creative work. For more information, see Tara Goodwin or Wendy Rutberg.

Want a shock? Call ZAP! Want some good clean fun? Call LATHER! Can't sleep? Call DR. DENTON! lost in the jungle? Call JIM!

Happy Valentines Day, Dean - I love you! Y.F.W.

LRSRPAQGUPBL
RCIMNSTUAB
VDRWBFQARTG
!!!!!!!!!!!!

*** NOTE ***

Spring Track is just around the corner. Hope to see you out there! Let's have a winning team this year!

Wanted: information on who bit the pickles.

Happy Valentines Day to EVERYBODY! Smile!
From, *terry*

All members of the W.T.S.N.I.A.D.B. club are urged to attend a meeting in room 603 at 2:05 on Feb. 28th.

MEN - WOMEN

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A.M.:

I know you're not much of a man by the light of day, but by night you're one hell of a lover!!!!

VICKY-I hope you get into Brown. Good Luck!! Sorry about M.L.O.P. Had lots of fun at E.C. on Feb. 5. SARA-Don't lose the Big V. to W., C., M., A., T., J. Or A. Going to have a WILD vac. Debbie

Happy Valentines Day to all the Sharon High Times typists...thanx for all the great work! ---S.H.T. staff



New Superintendant Dr. Maloney

Happy V.D. to Space Cadets and Ladies Club. That includes you, Debbie, even if you are NOT TOO COOL! and you Sara (now there is no E.P. for A.P., no L.S.-5, no M.L.O.P. Dave stood well over 34...Watch out for the Yago Ying-Yang - could be another Keld experience!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!)

Eugene...Nice to see you on the newspaper staff of this what did you call it? -hole?

Happy Valentines Day Mrs. Weinstein...thank you for all your help! ---The Sharon High Times Staff

Marci:
I'm going home...to Echo Beach, Canada. Come along and give yourself over to absolute pleasure. Sara

To the Heart Helpers: You guys are superb! Thanks for all the help you've given-especially C.S, M.B., D.B. Love ya, Jen

Lost: a dog dyed dark green. About two inches tall, with a strawberry blond fall. Sunglasses and a bonnet. Designer jeans, with appliques on it. If found, please return to Planet Claire.

A.M.:
Thrill me, chill me, fulfill me, creature of the night! (I see you shiver with anticipation.)

Happy Birthday Mitchell and Carolyn!!!!!!!!!!!!

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ENTERTAINMENT ↓

MOVIES: BEST AND WORST OF 1980

Hurray for Hollywood! Maybe 1981 will be cheered for, but 1980 was a year many would like to forget. Michael Cimino's movie, "Heaven's Gate", a 3 hour epic of life in the 1860's, opened in New York to disastrous reviews. Cimino is re-cutting and shortening it down to a 2 hour version which will be released in 1981. It was a year in which we lost a great comic actor, Peter Sellers, who died of a heart attack. Everyone wanted to remember him for his charming, but paper thin portrayal of Chance Gardner in "Being There"; instead, we were subjected to "The Fiendish Plot of Fu Man Chu" which was a silly movie. It was also a year in which countless numbers of horror films were released, all of them just plain bad and gory.

There are good happenings to balance out the bad of the year. Robert Redford played a prison warden in the powerful film "Brubaker" and later in the year, he made his directorial debut in the film adaptation of Judith Guest's novel "Ordinary People" which was highly acclaimed. It was the year that a spoof on the Airport movies became a box office smash. A good Christmas crop ended the year in which there were many good features.

The 10 Best Movies of 1980 (in alphabetical order)

Airplane is a movie that is a take off on the Airport movies of the 1970's. There are scenes that are take offs of "Saturday Night Fever", "Silver Streak", "Jaws" "From Here To Eternity". An all star cast takes a ride which could be their last. Airplane is the funniest movie of the year.

Being There is Peter Seller's next to last movie in which Shirley MacLaine and Melvyn Douglas co-star. Sellers plays Chance Gardner, an uneducated person, who is taken in by an affluent family and gains national recognition by speaking about the world in terms of gardening and television. Sellers proved again he is a great comical actor and this is a classic that will be remembered.

Brubaker is Robert Redford's summer contribution to 1980. Redford plays a prison warden who tries to fight the system to gain reform for the prison. It's a movie that ranks up top along with "The Candidate" and is one that will make you think.

The Great Santini is a heartwarming story of Col. Bull Meechan who is a Col. in the Marines and treats his family as if they were enlisted. It shows how a son tries to win his father's love when they don't see eye to eye. The film handles social problems of blacks and whites very nicely. A very good tear-jerker.

The Jazz Singer has been remade in 1980. The story is basically the same as the 1927 classic. Neil Diamond stars as Yosil Rabinovitch and Laurence Olivier stars as his father, the cantor. Many Jewish traditions are brought out making this film both cultural and enjoyable.

The Long Riders is the story of the James-Young's gang in the Old Wild West. From the poening scene of a bank robbery, the film is an explosive and violent epic. It stars Jim and Stacy Keach, and Dennis and Randy Quad. Unlike the old phony John Wayne westerns, this is the best western this side of Hollywood--You can bet your boots on that!

My Bodyguard is a warm, funny movie starring Matt Dillon and is about a new kid in school who is pestered by bullies, so he hires a kid to be his bodyguard. Martin Mull stars as the boy's father and Ruth Gordon as the boy's grandmother. This movie will amke you cheer as good and evil battle it out. It reminded me of "Breaking Away".

Ordinary People is the adaptation of Judith Guest's novel in which Robert Redford makes a dynamic directorial debut. Mary Tyler Moore, Donald Sutherland and Timothy Hutton star as a family trying to function after a personal tragedy in the family has ocured. Moore is magnificent as the mother, Beth, and probably will win an Oscar for Best Actress. I thought it was a good movie although it could have done without the many psychiatric scenes between Conrad, played by Timothy Hutton and Dr. Berger, played by Judd Hirsch, otherwise, this is an Oscar contender for Best Picture.

Raging Bull is the third film in which Robert DeNiro and director Martin Scorsese have worked together (Mean Streets: New York, New York). De Niro plays Jake La Motta, a fighter who treats his women the same way he treats his opponets in the ring. This true, gritty story, filmed in black and white, examines La Motta's uprisings and his downfalls. This film reminded me a little of "Lenny" which starred Dustin Hoffman as Lenny Bruce. De Niro should receive an Oscar for Best Actor, just for one scene in which he gained 50 pounds to play a nightclub scene.

Urban Cowboy is the surprise movie of 1980. After seeing three of the worst movies of all time, Saturday Night Fever, Grease and Moment By Moment, I expected more of the same, the only difference being a la country style. I thought wrong. Travolta has finally learned how to act and how not to mumble. Travolta plays an Urban Cowboy who, like many, spends hard hat days and honky tonk nights at Gillys, a nightclub in Texas. The film contains a lot of good music, a mechanical bull and a hoe down of a good.

The Worst 10 Movies of 1980 (in alphabetical order)

American Gigolo stars Richard Gere as a male prostitute who hops in and out of bed with girls. There is also a murder charge on someone. I liked Gere in "Yanks" but this film put me to sleep.

Crusin'-I went to this film because of the publicity it was getting and, being a film buff, I wanted to see what the big conflick was all about. What I saw was a borderline X film which I thought should have played the South Station Cinema. Explicit violence and a lot of S and M gays, filled the screen only for four weeks in Boston while there was much protest. Al Pacino stars as the cop chasing a gay killer. I am wondering whether or not this film will jeopardize Pacino's career. According to the distributor, United Artists, this is a dead film and is not being released in any market.

Breaking Glass is a movie about a punk rock singer trying to make it big in England. Starring as the singer is Hazel O'Connor, and since it is an English film, I couldn't understand any dialogue.

The Fog is directed by John Carpenter, who also directed Halloween. I thought Halloween was not too good and The Fog is even worse. Carpenter uses the same camera techniques as in Halloween and they are not scary anymore. The only thing worth seeing is Adriene Barbeau.

Gloria is the latest John Cassavetes film and it stars Gena Rowlands as Gloria, who inherits a boy after the mob killed his family. The mob wants the boy and Gloria, who is friends with the mob, won't part with him. We go on a chase through hotels of New York City which makes a very boring film.

Hide In Plain Sight marks James Cann's debut as a director and it is not a good one. The movie is about a man's search for his children who are in his wife's custody. The police know where they are, but they are not telling. It seems more like a documentary and was just a dull ride.

Hollywood Knights is a comedy and a rip-off of American Graffiti. Its about a local hamburger stand that is going to be demolished and shows how the gang, The Knights, spend the night. It seems too close to the classic.

The Island, a Peter Benchley novel, his third translated to the screen, proves to be all washed up within 10 minutes. It stars Michael Caine a reporter on vacation, who stumbles on a island of pirates. Benchley scored with Jaws, but The Island ranks pretty boring along with The Deep.

Popeye-Robert Altman's last good film was Mash which came out in 1970. Ever since, he has made some bad movies such as Nashville. Popeye joins the others. Since the character is known for eating Spinich I thought he would perform miracles which would display special effects. Watching this film, I felt like I was watching the screen version of Oliver. There are musical numbers which don't work and only add to the boredom of the story. The only good of this

movie is Robin Williams's impersonation of the sailor which sounds exactly like the cartoon voice. Wholly Moses is a cheap shot at trying to match Monty Python's Life of Brian. With an all star cast and Dudley Moore in the lead, this film provides no laughs. It was more of a history documentary rather than a comedy. Even a great star and comedian, Richard Pryor, couldn't breath any last rights into this boring rip-off of a great classic.

Here's hoping and looking at you, Hollywood, for better films in 1981.

by Bruce Griff

J. GEILS IN CONCERT

As the seats began to fill up in the 12,000 plus capacity Providence Civic Center, the festivities soon began. The first rolls of toilet paper began flying through the air around 7:00, and the popular game of "Hit a cop with a roll of Charmin" was in full swing by 7:15. Soon, Frisbees joined the aerial display as did tennis balls and anything else that was throwable. While the aerial display continued, the fans consumed their intoxicants in anticipation of the Stompers.

Soon, the lights dimmed and the Stompers appeared. They put on a solid hour performance before vacating the stage for intermission. Now the aerial festivities in the smoke-filled center, which resembled L.A. on a bad day.

The lights suddenly dimmed again and the Mighty J. Geils Band appeared clad in Christmas apparel. They played an array of songs including "Blow Your Face Out," "Love Stinks," "One last Kiss," "Till the Walls Come Tumbling Down," "Must a Got Lost," and "Sanctuary." Unfortunately, their arsenal of songs fell short of the crowd's expectations. Exactly one hour and twenty minutes after their opening song, their concert culminated with four encores. Many classify this as a mini-concert, as I myself do. For the amount of money dished out for tickets (\$11 each) and the number of songs Geils has under their belt, they should have played for a much longer period of time. After all, it was us, their fans, who got them to where they are today, and in return, they should have given us a concert worth the \$11 admission price.

Hopefully, Geils will, in the future, remember who got them where they are today and show us more gratitude.

-Larry Ross

MUSIC CONTEST

Top prize- \$5.00 gift certificate for Good Vibrations

2nd prize- choice of 5 candy bars from the Senior Candy Store

3rd prize- choice of 2 candy bars from the Senior Candy Store

The winners of this contest will be determined by the number of questions answered correctly. In the case of a tie the winner will be determined by a drawing. All entries must be returned to room 114 by the end of school Friday, February 13.

1. Which artist, or group, holds the record for having the most No.1 singles on the United States' best-selling record charts in the decade of the 70's?
2. The 1959 plane crash that killed Ritchie Vallens and the "Big Bopper" also took the life of a young singer-songwriter whose death figured heavily in Don McLean's song "American Pie". Name him (or her).
3. According to a 1979 hit by "Dire Straits", "Guitar George" played in what band?
4. Who, according to a song from the 60's, "Waits at the window, wearing the face that she keeps in a jar by the door"?
5. This New Jersey singer-songwriter played in bands called "Steel Mill" and "Dr. Zoom and the Sonic Boom". Name him (or her).
6. Match the 5 performers listed below with the crimes with which they have been charged at one time or another.

Jim Morrison 1.	A. Assault and Battery
Chuck Berry 2.	B. Possession of Cocaine
Joan Baez 3.	C. Indecent Exposure
Jerry Lee Lewis 4.	D. Income Tax Evasion
Keith Richard 5.	E. Blocking the entrance to an induction center
7. Which well-known rock band lost two of its members in motorcycle crashes in Macon, Ga?
8. Donald Fagen and Walter Becker took the name for their group from a steam-driven device mentioned in a novel. Name the group.
9. What rock band claims a pair of lips and a tongue as its corporate logo?
10. One of the members of the "Police" has recorded under the alias "Klark Kent". Name him.

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Boomtown Rats - Feb.
27th

Boston Garden
Cheap Trick - Feb. 28th

BOSTON BEATLES CONVENTION

On December 12, 13, and 14, the Bradford Hotel was the site for a recreation of musical history during the first Annual Boston Beatles Convention. For three days, the Bradford came alive as thousands poured into it to relive yesterday and experience once again the magic of the sixties.

Dealers from all parts of the country packed the booths with memorabilia from Beatle records, photos, and buttons to Beatle lunch boxes, notebooks, and games.

People wandered through the hotel absorbing Beatle nostalgia while the Beatles and Apple recreated the Beatles music. Movies and concert clips were shown as well as Joel Glazier's slide-tape presentation on the 1969 "Paul is dead" rumors.

The Beatles Convention was conducted on a sad note as the tragic killing of John Lennon occurred only days earlier. The mood was somber; The crowd was quiet.

A special memorial for John Lennon was presented and Charles Rosenay!!!, a devout Lennon fan and one of the Convention's producers, performed his version of Lennon's "Imagine" which he wrote the night of John's death...

"Imagine no more Lennon
It seems so hard to do
No more witty Beatle
And no more Walrus too
Imagine no John Lennon
Living life in peace..."

Stephen Brill, publisher of All Things Must Pass and a dealer at the convention, felt that John's death generated interest to the convention and added to business.

Joe Pope, publisher of Strawberry Fields Forever, said that had John not been killed, John would have dropped by the Convention as he was supposed to take his son Sean to see The Nutcracker.

Although the tone of the Convention was low-key because of John's death, the Convention showed that the magic lives and the Beatles are alive as ever.

Monica Weinstein

"The Rings"

The Rings-MCA Records

The "Rings" are powerful quartet who have been playing the Boston club circuit for a number of years. Their debut album on MCA records has just recently reached record stores and is already gaining quite a bit of radio play.

The "Rings" music is quite similar to that of the "Cars", a Boston band who have already reached "success". Like the "Cars", the "Rings" have brought together many styles of music, such as rock, new wave, funk, and reggae, enabling them to exhibit their own distinctive "pop" sound.

The band members, Bob Gifford, bass; Mark Sutton, lead; Mike Baker, rhythm; and Matt Thurber, drums; each display their own talents strongly. A lead singer has not been established as yet, which I believe to be a positive aspect of a band. Gifford's vocal intensity is featured greatly in his songs, "I Need Strange", and "Got My Wish". Mike Baker's "Let Me Go" is the song that is getting the most airplay. With its pop characteristics, it has much top 40 potential, perhaps too much. Guitarist/Vocalist Mark Sutton does not over emphasize his guitar leads, which turn up at the right moment in every song. His tune, "Who's She Dancin' With" is a strong candidate for their second cut, after Baker's "Let Me Go".

The "Rings" have toured Boston as a back-up band many times (once for the "Cars"). Although a bit too loud in concert, their live performance enhances their self-produced album perfectly.

First albums tend to be a bit discreet, but not this one. The "Rings" hit their devotees with full blast, and they could easily become Boston's next big contribution to Rock music.

Steve Snyder

TRUST: ELVIS COSTELLO AND THE ATTRACTIONS

Elvis Costello does not have the most versatile voice, yet Trust is his sixth strong album since his first in 1977 (not to mention his dozens of singles unreleased in the U.S.) His success lies mainly in the fact that each album changes slightly from the other. His last album, Taking Liberties, contains 20 songs, each demonstrating his wide range of style. Trust contains 14 songs, most with the same distinctive Costello style. On both albums Elvis displays his unique, powerful voice, which dominates on every one of his songs.

The most obvious change found in Trust is the presence of more piano, as opposed to the ever-present organ found in his last couple of albums. This is the most notable on his ballad "Shot with His Own Gun," a song containing only Steve Nieve on piano and Elvis Costello on vocals.

Another change Elvis has made is the addition of guest musicians. In "From a Whisper to a Scream," Elvis introduces Glenn Tilbrook, the lead singer from Squeeze, on vocals and Martin Belmont on guitar. This is the first notable time Elvis has shared the lead singing with another, and "Whisper" is definitely one of the stronger candidates for a released single.

These changes in Trust from Elvis' past albums help to make Trust distinctive from Costello's past works; however, if you are not a Costello fan, these changes will not be enough to change your mind.

Steve Snyder

TRIBUTE (****)

It was Shakespeare who said, "All the world's a stage," and it is that phrase by which Scottie Templeton lives his life. 20th Century Fox's Tribute stars Jack Lemmon as Scottie, a former writer-producer, now press agent, who thinks life is one punchline after another, Lee Remick as Maggie Stratton, Scottie's ex-wife, and Robby Benson as Scottie's son, Judd. Tribute reunites Jack Lemmon and Lee Remick whose last film together was Days of Wine and Roses made in 1962.

As the film opens we learn Scottie has encountered a blood disease. His ex-wife, Maggie, and his 21 year old son Judd visit him, where in private Scottie tells Maggie the bad news. Scottie requests that Judd stay with him a while, but Judd, had never forgiven his father for leaving him and his mother. After some conflicts his mother persuades him to stay. When Maggie tells Judd the news of his father, we sense Judd's anger as he has no compassion for his father. Scottie tries to win his son by comedy routines and fixing him up with a hooker, both unsuccessful. We see Scottie and Judd battling it out and insulting each other with lines such as,

"You're the son I never wanted"

"I never wanted a father like you"

and usually the only time they make contact with each other is when fighting.

Lemmon's character looks at life as if it were one big comedy routine. As the disease progresses and Scottie is in the hospital, he thinks it is a party. It reminded much of Roy Scheider's character of Joe Gideon in All That Jazz. Lemmon provides a magnificent performance equally as good as his role in his last film The China Syndrome. The refreshing role of Maggie is played well by Lee Remick. I thought Remick had hit rock bottom after seeing her last film The Competition, but I underestimated her. The surprise of the film was Robby Benson's performance as Judd. After seeing him in mainly comedies, One On One, The End, Die Laughing Benson, who plays the part perfectly, proves he can also play straight roles. To me, Benson looks like a high school student, but I'm sure he will be around for a long time.

A couple of scenes that deal with the doctor's telling Scottie about the disease and the doctor's telling Judd about it, come through brilliantly with no voices, although there are mouths moving; the actions speak louder than the words. Progression of Scottie's disease is shown in a series of still photographs which enhances the film, instead of showing live action of suffering. Tribute is unlike a movie such as Love Story, as Tribute sometimes puts Scottie's disease on the back burner and puts Scottie's and Judd's relationship up front.

Tribute is a warm, funny and sad film. It's a movie for everyone who lost their father's love or for anyone who wants to make sure they can maintain a strong bond. The film can have the effect of bringing days of wine and roses or bring days that are as devastating as the aftermath of a nuclear meltdown.

by Bruce Griff

ALTERED STATES ****

Last Wednesday, upon deciding what to do that weekend, I was told of a new movie that was supposed to be strange and mind-boggling. Being fascinated by those kind of movies, I enthusiastically agreed to go see Altered States playing at the Cinema 57. The theatre was tremendous and it, being the premier of the movie in Boston, was packed.

For the next two hours my eyes were glued to the screen. Between the brilliant visual effects and the new technique on the sound, the movie was a sure success. At certain parts of the movie the sound shifted from the one speaker to about ten to produce the desired effect.

In general, this movie is about a scientist who experiments with an unknown force and suffers the consequences of tampering with the unknown. Altered States has a moral which requires some degree of concentration to understand. It is a movie to see more than once.

This movie was overall excellent, and for a long period of time after it was over I had many of my own thoughts and interpretations about the obscured meaning. If you liked 2001: A Space Odyssey, you will love this movie.

by Sanford Tassel

THE JAZZ SINGER ***

In 1927, history was made when the first motion picture with a sound track was released. The Jazz Singer, starring Al Jolson, is a cornerstone in the industry and a cinema classic. Twenty seven years later, in 1954, the first remake was released starring Danny Thomas. In these time of sequels comes forth the second remake. This contemporary version stars Neil Diamond as Yosel Rabinovitch; Laurence Olivier as Yosel's father, who is also the cantor; Catlin Adams, as Yosel's wife and Lucie Arnaz as Yosel's manager.

Basically, the story is the same as the original, but with some things that were never thought of in 1927. Jess Robins (stage name), sings in a band while his father, the cantor, sings in the temple. Jess also sings in the temple, but he wants to get out and see places other than New York City. Conflict begins when Jess tells his father he going to see about a singing job in Los Angeles. His father wants him to stay in New York and sing in the temple where he will get a steady pay check, but most important to the father is for Jess to carry on the tradition of five generations of Rabinovitch cantors that came before Jess. Jewish traditions are brought out in one scene when Jess' father visits him in Los Angeles only to find him living with a Gentile, where upon the father performs the tradition of ripping a piece of his clothing and saying a prayer for the dead in effect, disowning his son.

Diamond wrote the music for the film of which there is too much. At one point in the film there is a half an hour of concert footage. By the time we get back to the story the buildup of the emotions we felt for the characters are wiped away.

The film is good as it contrasts the differences of traditional views and contemporary views. We see both the father and son singing: the father, traditionally; the son, contemporarily, and they realize that they both have congregations. The only difference is that Jess has his in concert halls. Many Gentiles may not understand or appreciate this film which shows many Jewish traditions and has some Yiddish phrases. I enjoyed this film as it is a part of my culture. It is not often that a film devotes its them and characters to Judaism. I can only name two films, The Frisco Kid (1979), about a rabbi in the 1850's and Fiddler on the Roof (1971), about life in Russia in the early 1900's. Like The Jazz Singer, Fiddler has traditions as a main theme.

Even though more bases are covered in this 1980 version than in the 1927 version, this is a film for all people to see, for it explores the love of a son and father, even if they don't see eye to eye. All types of people come into contact with these problems. For the Gentile filmgoer, a helpful hint to understand the movie, bring a Yiddish dictionary and a Jew.

Alan Parsons Project: A Turn of a Friendly Card ****

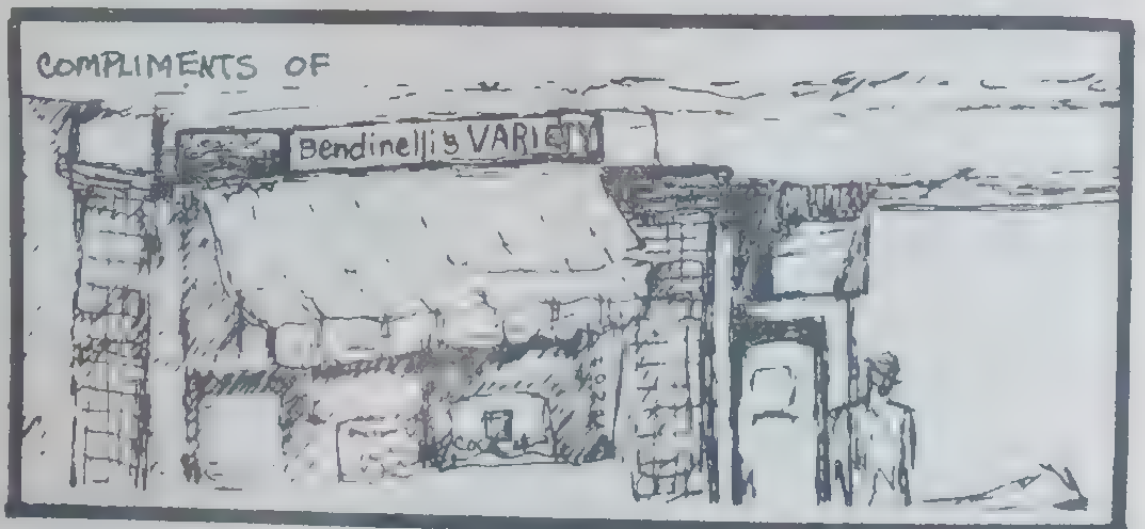
On their fifth effort, the Alan Parsons Project deals with an all too familiar theme: gambling. They combine their songs into a tale of obsession with the sin that has led many to an early grave.

Side one opens with "May Be a Price to Pay." It deals with the growing need of the man in the song to gamble. This leads into "Games People Play" where he is drawn into the game's magnetic pull to take a chance. In "Time" he says "Good-bye, my friends, maybe forever... The stars wait for me... Time keeps flowing like a river to the sea. As Time passes by, he's led into "Don't Wanna Go Home." By this time, he's deep into gambling and warned to go home, but it's too late, for he has been "blinded with diamonds and all the money that money can buy." By this time, he realizes that the only way he can go is up.

Side two opens with "The Turn of a Friendly Card." In this song, a connotation to the gambling capital of the world, Las Vegas, is evident. "There's a sign in the desert that lies to the west, where you can't tell the night from the sunrise, and not all the King's horses and all the King's men have prevented the fall of the unwise." "Snake Eyes" and "The Ace of Swords" follow and they deal with the hope of those who wish for snake eyes, sevens, and elevens. Unfortunately, these numbers seldom appear and the participants have "Nothing Left to Lose," the next song on the road to oblivion. The album culminates with part two of "A Turn of a Friendly Card" where "The unsmiling faces in fetters and chains on a wheel in perpetual motion who belong to all races and answer all names with no show of an outward emotion. And they think it will make their lives easier but the doorway before them is barred, and the game never ends when your whole world depends on the turn of a friendly card, no the game never ends when your whole world depends on the turn of a friendly card."

This album is excellent. It gets its point across effectively with the use of a unique rock sound greatly lacking the screams and shrieks of much of today's rock. It is a good change of pace album for those of you who are used to the hard rock of 'COZ and 'AAF. Overall, it's a welcome edition to and rock fan's album collection.

-Larry Ross



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Sound Off

EDITOR'S NOTE

Is Sharon High School really that bad? Would we be better off at Norwood High or Canton High? Or are we lucky to be here? The feature staff was left with these puzzling questions after visiting other high schools in the area for the Time's feature on neighboring high schools.

After attending classes at various high schools, we were faced with the difficult task of evaluating the different facets of the schools in comparison to Sharon High School. It was hard for us to judge the school we had visited in comparison to Sharon High, the school we attend.

Some of the students and teachers may disagree with the idea of the highest score in RULES being awarded to the school with the most lenient policies. This exemplifies the fact that the scores are based on the personal opinions of the feature staff; however, after reading the different school report cards, we find a few certain policies of Sharon High School hard to understand.

All the schools contain students approximately 14 to 18 years of age, yet these schools are situated in very different towns which accounts for varied school programs and atmospheres. Each school is unique; it is true that Sharon High has the strictest rules, but it is also true that Sharon High contains two very unique programs not offered in some of the other high schools, the exchange student program and the METCO program.

The Sharon High Times feature staff has collected information on different schools and graded these schools in reference to the information collected. You, the reader are left to decide for yourself which school is really the best.

At the end of my day at Norwood High School I spoke with the head of their guidance department about comparing Sharon High School. It is what he told me that really sums up this feature comparing neighboring high schools... "the grass always seems greener on the other side."

Monica Weinstein

YET ANOTHER TRIBUTE TO JOHN LENNON

I was talking to a girl the other day about the Beatles and of course John Lennon came up. She told me she loved John Lennon's music; so I brought up two of his earlier classics, 'Shaved Fish' and 'Imagine.' She said that she became a fan of the Beatles and John Lennon only recently, and she added that the only album she ever heard was "Double Fantasy."

The day after John Lennon, ex-Beatle, was murdered, there was a felling of loss and sadness around the school.

Radio stations around the world devoted hours to John Lennon and Beatles albums. Even in Russia the press praised John Lennon and the radio stations played his music.

Now it seems a type of 'Beatlemania' has gripped Sharon High School. People are finding the Beatles to be their number one liking, because of the variety of pop, rock and hard rock songs.

John Lennon the "legend" has been born in the press. The tributes to John Lennon are numerous and sometimes lacking in taste.

In an all time low 'The National Enquirer' published a picture of John Lennon in the morgue. Above the picture, there was a banner headline "The Last Photo Taken of John Lennon!" This issue was banned in some stores, but other stores carried it.

Soon the public will become saturated with John Lennon memorabilia. His name will become worn by the many people trying to make a profit from John Lennon's name.

If you want to remember John Lennon the person, not the media produced legend, go out and buy a John Lennon or Beatles' album. That is where you will find out who John Lennon was and what he believed in.

--Karl Suchecki

To Be or Not To Be

Everyone is more than eager to know what will become of our school as a result of Proposition 2½, but as of yet, no decisions have been made. What the proposition states is that Massachusetts homeowners should not have to pay a tax of more than 2½% of the fair market value of their property. This proposition is valid for two years, when it will be possible for voters and legislature to alter or abolish it. In Sharon specifically, this means that starting on September 1, 1981, the town will have \$1,150,000 less in its budget than last year, and the cuts will be even more painful next year as inflation continues to skyrocket.

What exactly does this mean to us? Every aspect of the town's budget will be cut: allocations for the fire department, the police department, public services, etc., but since 60-70% of a town's budget goes to its schools, we will be the hardest hit. So far, the planning is still in the works. The Superintendent of Schools has written his recommendation on a new budget, but it has yet to be approved by the school committee and then passed by a majority vote in the town meeting. The Superintendent has made the following recommendations:

1. Because 80% of the budget is spent on salaries, the greatest cuts will be in the faculty. Instead of doing away with entire departments and programs, the cuts will be made across the board—teacher(s) from each department, secretaries, advisors, etc. Deciding exactly whom they must let go is complicated; they must consider the individuals' contractual obligations, their years of training and experience, personal recommendations and evaluations, and the needs of the school.
2. Tennis, golf, winter track, and gymnastics will be cut, leaving boys' and girls' basketball, cross-country, and spring track; boys' baseball, football, and soccer; and girls' field hockey and softball.
3. All extra-curricular activities will remain: the debating team, the math team, the newspaper, etc.
4. Accounting for less than 1/5 of the entire budget, field trips will be cut and the purchasing of books and materials will be reduced.

Whose fault is this? Basically, the blame belongs to every person who voted in favor of Proposition 2½. The purpose of the proposition was to force the government of Massachusetts to cut down on its extravagant spending, possibly do away with its doormen, elevator operators, and personal shoeshine boys. How the voters could have been so naive as to believe this would happen, I don't know, but desperate people take desperate measures. And the politicians are having their revenge: they have hit us in the heart of our society—our schools, our police protection and our fire protection. It's a sad day when our government can take a such obvious advantage of us, but it looks as if we in Massachusetts will be shining the shoes of our elected officials for at least another two years.

-Lisa Wesel

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The citizens of the United States are very proud of the 53 Americans who were held as hostages in Iran. They call the 53 Americans "heroes". Since the former hostages have come home all of the people who live in the United States are very proud to be Americans.

The 53 Americans were taken as hostages on November 4, 1979, and they were held for four hundred and forty four days. During their captivity, they endured many things that they will never forget. All of the 53 Americans will never be the same psychologically because some were threatened, some were tormented mentally, some were beaten, and some were told to do things that they would never do normally. The psychological effect might show up in the way they think, the way they do things, the way they react to different events, and the way they express their feelings. Some, however, were affected more than were others.

I feel that the way the Americans were affected depends on how the Iranians treated them and the way in which the hostages reacted to their treatment. I can definitely say, along with all other Americans, that it is good that they are home. The only sad thing is that it took so long to get them freed, and also that eight Americans died while trying to rescue the former hostages.

Also, since we call the freed hostages "heroes" and gave them a warm reception when they came home, why didn't we do the same for the Americans who served in Vietnam? We should call those Americans "heroes" because they went through a lot more than the 53 Americans who were held in Iran. There are still, to this day, Americans being held in Vietnam. It has been more than four hundred and forty four days for them. What are we going to do to get them freed? When are those "heroes" going to come home?

Kathy O'Neill

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JOIN A JUNIOR LEAGUE

Sharon High School prides itself as being a melting pot for diverse minorities. People of different races, religions, and ethnic backgrounds interact together in complete harmony. However, one important segment of society is being ranked down each day in our so-called tolerant classrooms. Several non-thinking teachers and students are scoffing and laughing at the largest and most influential minority of all: women.

Can you imagine the reprisals if a female teacher began to joke to her classes about the inferiority of men? She would create a roar of protest and most likely be ostracized by students and teachers alike. Sadly enough,

jokes ridiculing women by otherwise well-intentioned male teachers are a common occurrence. Several of the jokes they crack could create a scandal worthy of the Supreme Court. It is only because we have grown so accustomed to them that, besides an occasional smirk or groan, they pass unnoticed.

Many of the teachers tell these jokes with the best of intentions. Perhaps they feel they are poking a little harmless fun. Perhaps they secretly hate their mothers. Maybe in some perverse way, they think they are motivating their female students to work harder, or that they are preparing them for "the real world."

However good their intentions, this is not the case. Jokes about women are crude, annoying and gerally offensive. They fall into two distinct categories: that women are mentally and physically inferior to men, and that ugly women are the objects of scorn and ridicule. Apparently, anything less than perfection is tolerated only in men.

Every time a derogatory joke is told, it is upholding a bequest of ignorance and bigotry. It is an alarming fact that in these "hilarious" classrooms, a noticeable number of male students are snickering and whispering jokes of the same vein. So teachers, please keep your biases to yourselves. The next time you have an urge to tell another amusing ditty, take a good look inside yourself and decide if this is the legacy you want to pass on to your students.

-Name Withheld

Stamp your heart out...

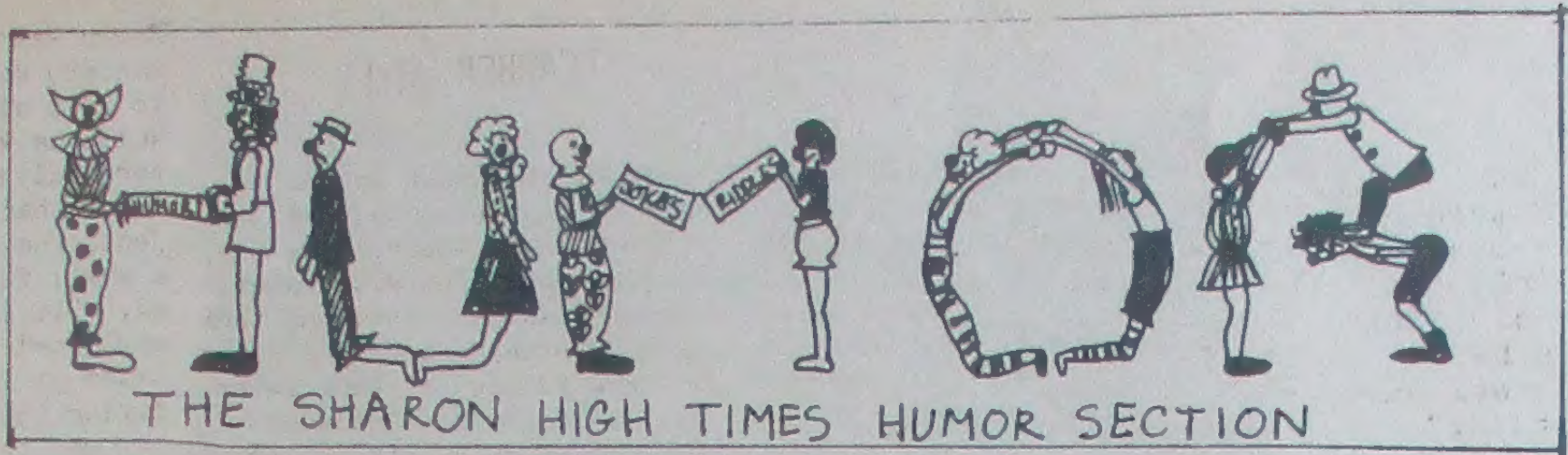


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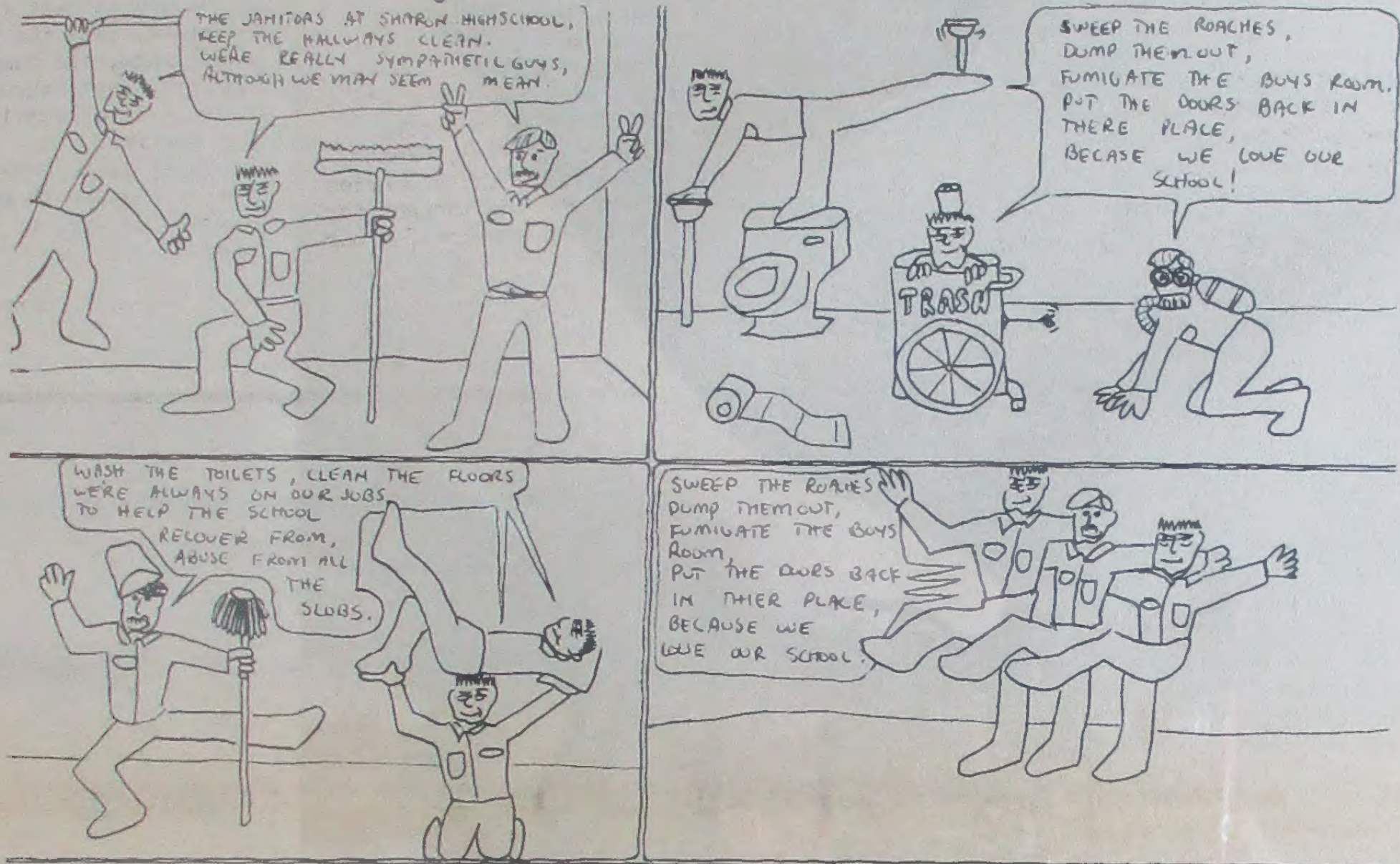




ANOTHER TRIBUTE (IT'S ONLY FAIR!)

To the Janitors

(sung to "Yankee Doodle")



Don't ask me, Ron. Ask J.C.

Dear Airhead-

There's, like, this boy, you know, who, like, really kind of has a thing for me. You know, he, like, says he loves me, sort of, and say's he'll, like, make me happy for the rest of my life, you know. But I like don't know. He talks kind of funny, sort of, like, weird. you know? Like, what should I do?

Mary Sue Parker
Evanston, Illinois

Drop him. He sounds sort of like a dork, you know?

Dear Airhead-

Who said the hostages could go home? I didn't! No one even asked me! I was having such a good time with them, too. Do you think maybe you could persuade them to come by for a visit? You know, a sort of reunion at the embassy. For old times sake. See if you can persuade them to come back. OK?

The Ayatollah
Teheran, Iran

They said they might come back. Someday. In a B-52.

The Knights of Elks
Utica, NY

Thanks.

Dear Airhead-

Help! I'm stuck here with this woman who is always taking pot-shots at the walls with her "little gun." She's crazy. How can I get out of here?

Ronald Reagan
The White House



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TEACHER JOKES

I saw a Deer in the shopping mall yesterday. "Do you have any Doe?" I asked her. "Only one Buck," she replied. "Then why did you come here?" I asked. Her answer came, "For the Fawn of it."

Recently heard at a dispute between Factory Labor and the Company Owners was the following: "We upped our offer. UP YOURS!"

I was about to get on my horse and go for a canter when I realized that the Temple was right next door.

While on a trip in Japan, I asked a Japanese man how to get to the highway. He didn't understand right away so I repeated the word highway a couple times. He finally smiled and said, "Oh, you mean 'Fleeway'". I became confused and asked "What's a fleeway?" and he answered "Oh about one ounce."

There was a monastery that was famous for its Fish & Chips. A man walked up to the door and knocked. A monk answered it, and the man asked, "Are you the Chip Monk?" He answered, "No, I'm the Fish Friar."

I had dinner at a restaurant on Mars yesterday. The food was good, but there was no atmosphere.

A wife asked her husband if he put the cat out when he went to bed. He answered, "No, I didn't even know it was on fire."

Did you hear about the lady who backed into a propeller at the airport? Tsk, Tsk, Disaster.

What do you call a cow that has had an abortion? Decaffeinated

I used to paint houses with my brother. We made a lot of money because we diluted the paint with water, which saved on paint, and then we got to paint the same house again a couple of years later. But I finally quit because one day an angel visited me and said, "Repaint, you thinner."

Mr. Pane

A youngster came home from school crying one day because he was told that he had a big head. After convincing him otherwise, his mother sent him shopping for her. He asked, "What should I carry the groceries home with?" She thought for a second and answered, "Your hat."

--Mr. Lachapelle

There was a traveling salesman who wanted to buy a pet to keep his wife company while he went on trips. After telling the pet store owner that money was no object, the owner showed him a small fur ball that talked. "It is called a rarey," explained the owner, "because it is so rare." After paying \$5000, the man brought it home to his wife who adored the little rarey. When 1 week passed the rarey was 8 times the size. After 2 more weeks, the salesman came home to see the rarey, as big as a house, on the front lawn. He decided to rent a flat-bed truck, take the rarey to Colorado, and dump it into the Grand Canyon where it could live happily and grow forever. When there, the rarey looked over the edge of the canyon and said, "Its a long way, to tip-a-rarey."

--Mr. Chappuis

MONITOR BLOTTER

Mon: 9:00-Stopped a boy in the halls who was pulling a chain. When asked why, he explained that he couldn't push it. Gave him 3 nights.
1:00-Found a boy studying in the bathroom. He stated that he wanted to get to the head of his class. I told him he was already at the head of the school.

Tues: I decided to take the day off today. I called in sick and the office belived me. How gullible! I'm in the clear, now. How could they ever find out? I'm too smart for them.

Wed: 11:00-Checked wing 1 lavs
11:05-Checked wing 2 lavs
11:10-Checked wing 3 lavs
got chased out of the girls lav by a hoard of girls throwing toilet paper and yelling "rape!" Tried my hardest to explain to Mr. Stevenson, whom I bumped into outside the lav.

Thur: 6:00-recieved a call that school was cancelled because of snow. I went back to bed.
6:00-recieved a call from Mr. Stevenson asking where I was. My explanation was followed by some harsh words. I sped to school.

Fri: 1:45-Mr. Stevenson asked if there was any pot smoking in the lavs. I said no, but there is a urinal on fire. He mentioned something about a very long vacation.



???Can you find the eight mistakes in this picture???

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Sports

BASKETBALL

The varsity basketball team started off their season with a surprise as they lost three out of their first four games. After beating Attleboro rather easily in the North Attleboro Christmas Tournament, they lost to Bishop Feehan in the finals. The next week, they also lost to Cathedral and Dover-Sherborn at home. However, things turned around when the Hockomock League season began. The team put it together and began to win. After having a relatively easy time with Canton and King Philip, winning by the scores of 74-51 and 84-60 respectively, they had to face two tough teams in Stoughton and Mansfield. Due to a second-half surge, Sharon beat Mansfield 70-53 and got by Stoughton 62-52, improving the Eagle's record to 4-0 in the league and 5-3 overall. But the real test remained in the next game which was against Oliver Ames who was undefeated at the time. Due to good shooting and great defense, Sharon beat Oliver Ames convincingly by the score 59-49. But the remaining teams to be played made things even more difficult for the Eagles. North Attleboro stayed close with Sharon until the fourth quarter where Sharon came on strong and won 60-51. When Franklin came to Sharon, they came very close in overtime to handing Sharon its first league loss. Sharon trailed the whole game except tying it up with one second left. Then, after a well-played overtime, the Eagles came up on top, 48-45. A victory over Foxboro ended the first half of the varsity's league schedule. Although they stayed up with Sharon during the first half, Foxboro's young team couldn't keep up with Sharon's experienced players. So after the first half of the Hockomock League schedule, Sharon remained undefeated in the league and 9-3 overall.

The second half of the season began on a disappointing note as Sharon lost its first league game. Despite a 11 point halftime lead, Sharon came out flat in the third and fourth quarters and lost to Canton 63-59. But Sharon came back in full force against King Philip, having no problems and winning by 19, 69-50. Against Mansfield, it looked like another easy win for Sharon, but Mansfield came out strong in the second half and closed the gap but ran out of time, Sharon won 57-54. On Friday night, Sharon played Stoughton and won a close game by the score 74-73. Down by as much as 22 points before the start of the fourth quarter, Sharon managed to come back and win with two seconds remaining. To this point, Sharon is tied for first place with Oliver Ames in the Hockomock League with an 11-1 record and 12-4 overall.

Bobby Laurie

WINTER TRACK

Despite its small size, this year's winter track team's athletes, coached by Mr. Nelson, are doing a great job in interleague competition. Highlights of the season thus far are new SHS records set by Tom Albuit in the 50, Rob Skelton in the hurdles, and the mile relay team of Henry Young, Joe Fillion, Co-Captain Dave Henriquez, and Jimmy Messina. Sharon hurdlers Rob Skelton, Co-Captain Ben Lofgren, and Tai Tran are among the top six in the league; and high jumpers Henry Young, Tom Albuit, and Tai Tran jumped a combined seventeen feet to take a 5th (out of

20 or so teams) at the Taunton Christmas Relays, December 29th. Dave Henriquez (2 Mile), Jim Messina (Mile 2 Mile), Dan Epstein (2 Mile), Billy Cohen (1000), Joe Fillion (50), and Ben Lofgren (600, 300) consistently scored in their events.

The meets are held at the Frankling field-house (where ten laps equal one mile) and usually take place at night. After the meets, the team usually gets pizzas on the way home. Unfortunately the Winter Track program might have to be eliminated because of Proposition 2½, and that would be to bad.

Rob

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

With Robin Cleveland and Jennifer Loiselie pacing the offense, and Raynor Spencer controlling the defense with big bounds and endless blocked shots, the Eagles got off to an even start. Despite a 6-point defeat to open the season, the Eagles picked up a hard-fought, 54-50 victory over a super Wayland team. Cleveland and Loiselie combined for 28 points in each of the first two games.

After a tough 8-point loss to King Philip, the Eagles bounced back to crush Mansfield, 70-28. Loiselie led the scoring with 24 points. Carol Drayton contributed with 15 points and Robin Cleveland chipped in with 8 more. Maureen Laurie came off the bench to add 11 big points.

The following week, the Eagles overcame Stoughton in an exciting overtime game in which Loiselie, Cleveland, and Laurie combined for 6 overtime points to put the game away. A crushing 39-18 defeat to Oliver Ames followed as the offense just couldn't get it together. Cleveland led the Eagles with 10 points.

Against North Attleboro, Cleveland paced the offensive attack with 17 points while Raynor Spencer keyed the defense with 7 rebounds and 7 blocked shots as the Eagles picked up their fifth win.

However, on Friday, Cleveland's 6 points in two overtime periods were not enough as the Eagles suffered a 49-57 loss to Franklin. Cleveland finished with a season-high 32 points and Loiselie added 10 more.

As the half-way point of the season approached, Sharon became plagued with several injuries and dropped consecutive losses to Foxboro and Canton.

With a present record of 5-6, the Eagles are looking forward to a promising second-half of the season. Good-luck!

The Team

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MED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
7:30-10	7:30-10	7:30-11	10-12	2-4:30
			2-4:30	7:30-10
			7:30-11	7:30-10

MATINEES SCHOOL VACATION - 2-4:30
WITH THIS AD, FREE SKATE RENTAL

The Sharon High Times

Editor-in-Chief.....Monica Weinstein
Business Editors...Monica Weinstein/Gary Silbert
Feature Editor.....Gerald Gamm
News Editor.....Jen Kaplan
Entertainment Editor.....Steven Snyder
Humor Editors...Laurence Lovett/Saul Natansohn
Sports Editor.....Billy Cohen
Art Editor.....Jill Sheff
Photography Editor.....Jon Eisenthal
Typing Editor.....Bitsy Isgur

Staff

Terry Ayotte, Russ Basch, Ori Cohen, Wendi Diamond, Paul Durkee, Muge Erkan, Mike Goodblatt, Bruce Griff, Benjie Gamm, Diane Hall, Bobby Laurie, Jen Loiselie, Jim Messina, Steven Nelson, Nancy Newman, Kathy O'Neill, David Palan, Diana Peltz, Larry Ross, Larry Rubin, Melanie Sandberg, Carolyn Shuman, Lisa Sinman, Rob Skelton, Steve Snyder, Karl Suchecki, Sanford Tassel, Lisa Todd, Barbara Waldman, Lisa Wesel, Lisa Yorra.

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